

REMARKS

The final Office Action addresses and rejects claims 1, 3, 5, and 7-9.

Applicants amend independent claim 1 to include the limitation of dependent claim 8, which is now cancelled. In particular, claim 1 is amended to recite a guide wire opening in the distal end of the nose member “and concentric with the central longitudinal axis of the elongated member.” Claim 1 is also amended to delete “a longitudinal axis.”

Applicants thank the Examiner for extending the courtesy of a personal interview to Applicant’s representatives on December 2, 2008. During the interview, agreement was reached that the claims, as amended herein, distinguish over the pending rejections. In particular, the Examiner agreed that the prior art currently relied on in the final Office Action fails to teach a guide wire opening in the distal end of the nose member and concentric with *the central longitudinal axis* of the elongated member, as required by claim 1.

In light of the above, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant if such communication is deemed to expedite prosecution of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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